

Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a spherical bearing comprising the steps of:

swaging an inner housing onto a ball to curve the inner housing around the ball and surround the equator of the ball;

providing an annular elastomeric portion around an outer surface of the inner housing, the annular elastomeric portion also curving around the ball and surrounding the equator of the ball;
and

swaging an outer housing onto the elastomeric portion.

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the ~~step~~ act of providing the annular elastomeric portion around the outer surface of the inner housing comprises bonding an elastomeric portion to the outer surface of the inner housing.

3. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 2, wherein the elastomeric portion is applied by an injection process.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) A spherical bearing arrangement having a bearing housing and a ball located therein, the bearing housing having an outer housing, an inner housing and an annular elastomeric portion sandwiched between the outer and inner housings, wherein:

the outer housing has an outer surface to allow the outer housing to be securely held in an interference fit hole;

the housings and the annular elastomeric portion surround the equator of the ball; and

the inner housing and the annular elastomeric portion are curved around the ball.

6. (Previously Presented) A bearing arrangement according to Claim 5, wherein the elastomeric portion is bonded to the inner housing.

7. (Previously Presented) A bearing arrangement according to Claim 6, wherein the elastomeric portion is bonded to the inner housing by an injection process.

8. (Currently Amended) A bearing arrangement according to ~~any one of Claims 5 to 7~~ Claim 5, wherein the elastomeric portion is bonded to the outer housing.

9. (Currently Amended) A bearing arrangement according to ~~any one of Claims 5 to 8~~ Claim 5, wherein a liner is provided on the inner housing in contact with the ball.

10. (Previously Presented) A bearing arrangement according to Claim 9, wherein the liner is a self-lubricating liner.

11. (Currently Amended) A bearing arrangement according to ~~any one of claims 5 to 8~~ Claim 5, wherein the inner housing and ball are both manufactured from metal and the inner housing is in direct contact with the ball.

12. (Currently Amended) A bearing arrangement according to ~~any one of Claims 5 to 11~~ Claim 5, wherein the elastomeric portion is rubber.

13. (New) A bearing arrangement according to Claim 6, wherein the elastomeric portion is bonded to the outer housing.

14. (New) A bearing arrangement according to Claim 7, wherein the elastomeric portion is bonded to the outer housing.

15. (New) A bearing arrangement according to Claim 6, wherein a liner is provided on the inner housing in contact with the ball.

16. (New) A bearing arrangement according to Claim 7, wherein a liner is provided on the inner housing in contact with the ball.

17. (New) A bearing arrangement according to Claim 8, wherein a liner is provided on the inner housing in contact with the ball.

18. (New) A bearing arrangement according to Claim 6, wherein the inner housing and ball are both manufactured from metal and the inner housing is in direct contact with the ball.

19. (New) A bearing arrangement according to Claim 7, wherein the inner housing and ball are both manufactured from metal and the inner housing is in direct contact with the ball.

20. (New) A bearing arrangement according to Claim 8, wherein the inner housing and ball are both manufactured from metal and the inner housing is in direct contact with the ball.

21. (New) A bearing arrangement according to Claim 6, wherein the elastomeric portion is rubber.